

ATTACHMENT

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Country: Austria

25X1A2g

Subject: Mining Activities

Place Acquired:

25X1X6

Date Acquired:

25X1A2g

Date of Info:

25X1X6 Supplementary to:

25X1X6

1. "A 40% drop in the Austrian export of graphite is recorded by the Austrian Montan Authority. The drop came after all exports to Hungary and Czechoslovakia, Argentina, and Poland had been declared.
2. "Lead and zinc are to be mined in the North Tyrolean area around Lafatsch. The Bleiberger Bergwerks Union (Mining Union) has just completed a two thousand foot long excavation near Scharnitz, where 500 feet beyond the Fugger mine (of the 15th Century) rich deposits start. Mining operations will begin immediately [16 Jun 53].
3. "Two other lead mines closed operations: the Nassereith Mine, operated by the Gewerkschaft Distentritt, reported exhaustion of the known deposit. A six thousand foot long excavation to reach other suspected deposits cannot be made, due to lack of capital. 25X1X6
4. "The scientific work in the Toesens area in the upper Inn Valley has also been stopped on account of shortage of capital.
5. "Production in 1953 of aluminum in Austria's largest plant, in Ranshofen is to reach 36 thousand metric tons. The production of the 1,600-employee plant is mainly directed to the US and France.
6. "The second oxygen blast steel refining mill will be opened during June's [1953] third week in Donawitz, Syria province. After the outstanding results achieved in the first plant of this kind the Linz VOeEST, Donawitz will boost its production to 600 thousand metric tons. This represents a rise amounting to 150 thousand metric tons or 25%.
7. "Within the Alpine Montan AG of Donawitz, a new rolling strip in the Donawitz plant is also under construction [16 Jun 53]. Supposed to be completed by the middle of 1954, the electrical part of the strip is already mounted while the mechanical parts (rollers, etc) are at present in transit by sea from the US.

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8. "To streamline production in the Alpine Montan AG, this nationalized enterprise has ordered a central sorting plant for ore in the Koeflach plant. This is said to aid both the ore mining department and the transport group, and will raise productivity in the Alpine Montan AG's Donawitz and Kapfenberg plants.
9. "The Bleiberger Mining Union is at present engaged in the construction of an electrolysis plant in Carinthia's capital, Klagenfurt, where nine thousand metric tons of zinc metal are to be refined annually.
10. "More than US\$3 million were earned by Austria's kaolin mining industry during 1952 when 15,655 metric tons were exported. Italy, West Germany, and Switzerland were the main customers. Imports of Kaolin into Austria were necessary, too for special qualities. The volume of 1,454 metric tons, however, was lower than in previous years. ✓
11. "The Donau Chemie AG has announced that the quartz mine near the Brenner Pass will not be reactivated. All efforts will be directed toward the Pettnau quartz mine, in the Landeck district, Tyrol, which was opened during April 1953.
12. "The Liesl Huette, mining society in Vienna, has announced the disintegration of the enterprise. The firm is now in liquidation; decisions as to disposition of the property of the enterprise have not yet been made.
13. "The international Austrian Eisenhuettentag 1953 (Iron Works Day) will last from 12 Jul to 14 Jul 53 when Austrian, British, French, German and Belgian iron and steel experts gather to discuss the development of the industry. Held in the traditional center of Austrian iron and steel, Leoben, Styria province, the delegates will discuss technical and scientific problems.
14. "Developed by the Vereinigte Oesterreichische Eisen und Stahlwerke (VOeEST) of Linz, Upper Austria, the alloy, named ALZEN 305, is said to have all the metallurgical properties of heavy metal alloys. A big advantage lies in the fact that the weight is much less than the formerly used type and furthermore that the availability of the raw material on the domestic market helps avoid imports.
15. "Slight increase in the production volume of Austrian mining was reported for the first quarter of 1953: Iron ore was mined to a volume of 225 thousand metric tons per month, as against 210 thousand tons during the identical period of 1952. Magnesite was mined at the same rate as during the first quarter of 1952, the monthly average being 55 thousand metric tons. During February 1952 the lead and zinc ore production reached 10,245 metric tons as against 9,844 metric tons during 1952's second month.

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16. "Raw steel was produced in Austria at peak level during the first quarter of 1953: Exceeding the output of the fourth quarter of 1952 by 14%, all Austrian enterprises together produced 293,740 metric tons. The February 1953 production, exceeding the 100 thousand metric ton mark for the first time in Austria's history, was not quite reached during March 1953 but was again recorded in April and May 1953."

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